

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
ILLINOIS GAMING BOARD  
MARCH 27, 1995  
EAST DUBUQUE, ILLINOIS

A Special Meeting of the Illinois Gaming Board was held on March 27, 1995 at the Silver Eagle Pavilion, East Dubuque, Illinois pursuant to the Illinois Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120/1 et seq.

The following Board Members were present: J. Thomas Johnson, Chairman; and Members William B. Browder, Gayl S. Pyatt, J. William Roberts and Robert F. Vickrey.

In addition, Administrator Michael A. Belletire, Deputy Administrators Joseph C. Haughey and Thomas Swoik; the representatives of the press and the general public were in attendance.

The meeting was called to give the licensee and the community the opportunity to give testimony for purposes of the potential relicensure of the Silver Eagle Casino - HP, Inc.

Chairman Johnson called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

Joseph Duellman, gave a history of HP, Inc. and their dedication to maintain effective and strong Internal Controls. He stated that they have a strong relationship with local vendors and more than 95% of the current employees are local residents. In 1994, payroll expenditures totaled over \$9 million. Hotel tax revenues have increased 30% since the Silver Eagle began operations. Gaming taxes generated for Jo Daviess County are about \$2.5 million. He also discussed the competitive environment due to the passage of revisions in the Iowa gaming law. The changes have allowed Iowa to obtain market dominance on the Illinois/Iowa border. Total gaming taxes paid by month, total gaming win by month, table games win by month, and admission are all significantly impacted by the competitive environment.

Bill McFadden, past Chairman of the Jo Daviess County Board spoke on behalf of the County Board. The County budget is \$14 million a year, some \$1.5 million of which has come from the riverboat. The County Board has utilized virtually all of the local riverboat gaming revenues for infrastructure projects and economic development grants. The County Board supports the relicensure of HP, Inc.

Darryl Barklow, President of East Dubuque Savings Bank and President of the local economic development authority, discussed the development of the area where the Silver Eagle now resides. Over the past fifteen years the county has been trying to develop the corridor along the highway but could not due to lack of sewer and water. Due to the gaming taxes generated by the Silver Eagle, new businesses, jobs and housing were created out in the corridor due to the infrastructure that was built. He stated that the money being generated is going back into the community. Many local businesses have reported increased sales since the Silver Eagle began. Mr. Barklow supports the relicensure of the Silver Eagle.

Steven Allendorf, Sheriff of Jo Daviess County, addressed the issues of tourism and the potential increase in crime. He reported that fears over increased crime associated with the casino project have not been raised. Changes in crime statistics in the County are not, according to the Sheriff,

attributable to the boat. Sheriff Allendorf feels the riverboat has a positive impact on the county.

Sara Fisher, citizen of Galena, raised three questions pertaining to the Fish and Wildlife Refugee adjacent to the Silver Eagle. She asked that the Board respond to these questions before making a final decision on the relicensure of the Silver Eagle.

John Martinson, citizen of Galena questioned the process of relicensure and whether the Board will look at the economic impact of gambling before relicensing HP, Inc.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Roberts moved that the Board stand adjourned. Mr. Browder seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote and the Board stood adjourned at 11:55 a.m. Members of the Board, along with staff then toured the Silver Eagle.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan A. Offord  
Secretary of the Board

